

# KRAB KRONICLE

## 506th Aerospace Expeditionary Group

EXPEDITIONARY AIRMEN • SUSTAINING GLOBAL REACH • MAINTAINING AIR DOMINANCE  
AND SUPPORT • TO STABILIZE A NATION • SO FREEDOM CAN FLOURISH



Vol. 1, Issue 24

Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq

Oct. 10, 2003



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

### Krab laughter

From left, comedians Bob Marley, Butch Bradley and Ralphie May sign autographs for a group of Kirkuk residents led by 1st Lt. Laura Yardley, 506th Air Expeditionary Group protocol officer Oct. 2 at the Cantina. The comedians performed here as part of a United Services Organization tour. For more photos and a complete story, see page 6.

## Construction on new BX begins

*AAFES commander visits Kirkuk for groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday*

By Senior Airman Lee S. Smith  
*Editor*

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new base/post exchange facility was held Tuesday.

Army Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, Army and Air Force Exchange Service commander, was on hand to begin the three-week project to build a hardened shelter, which is

scheduled to open Nov. 1.

"We serve the best customers in the world, and we want to have the best facility for you," Frost said. "Building this structure will help do that."

Frost said AAFES has a long tradition of excellence that servicemembers have known for many years.

*See "AAFES" on page 4*

# Hispanic American's military contributions

By Col. Jose R. Aragon  
Pacific Air Forces Financial  
Analysis Division

Many Hispanic Americans have been drawn to military service for myriad of reasons — to seek opportunities for education, growth, advancement, skills and professional success. Other factors include a sense of patriotism, love of country and hunger to serve.

Hispanic Americans have contributed gallantly to the defense of our nation. We have 40 Medal of Honor recipients, more than any other demographic segment.

From the American Revolution to the global war on terrorism, Hispanic Americans have risked and sacrificed their lives to defend freedom.

Here are just a few achievements of some of those individuals: The Civil War's most famous Hispanic was Navy Adm. David Farragut. He served gallantly in the Civil War and was instrumental in capturing New Orleans and seizing control of the Mississippi River.

Loreta Velazquez was the first Hispanic female spy in U.S. history.

She was a Cuban-born woman who disguised herself as a Confederate soldier and served as Lt. Harry Buford. Velazquez left her married, domestic life in San Antonio and fought in such battles as Bull Run, Ball's Bluff, Fort Donelson and Shiloh. Although never officially recognized militarily for her efforts, her

life story is chronicled in the book, *The Woman in Battle*.

Marine Pfc. Guy "Gabby" Gabaldon, a Los Angeles native, captured more than 1,000 Japanese in the South Pacific during World War II. After learning Japanese from his adopted Japanese family, he used it to obtain vital information on enemy positions that aided in that capture. He received a Silver Star for heroism. In Silvas, Ill., just west of Chicago, is a street named Hero Street, formerly known as Second Street.

It is just one and a half blocks long in a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood. Joe Gomez, Pete Macias, Johnny Munoz, Tony Pompa, Frank Sandoval, Joe Sandoval, William Sandoval and Claro Soliz grew up together in this small street in a very close-knit community, working for the railroad, just as their fathers before them had done.

They went to war in WWII without hesitation and never came back. As it turns out, 84 men from the 22 families who resided on this street participated in WWII, Korea and Vietnam.

This street has contributed more men to military service than any other place of comparable size in the United States. Hero Street, U.S.A., has a remarkable story of personal sacrifice and patriotism.

In 2001, America lost a Latino patriot who was diligent in the defense of his country and who protected American lives many times

over. His code name, Tango — Mike — Mike, stood for "That Mean Mexican." This patriot, who was also a Medal of Honor recipient, was Army Master Sgt. Roy Benavidez.

In his book *"Medal of Honor: One Man's Journey from Poverty to Prejudice,"* He wrote these memorable words: "I believe that there is no greater calling for a man or woman to serve in the military of a free nation.

I believe that it is a calling that transcends all others because embedded deep within the soul of every free man or woman is the knowledge that every freedom we have was earned for us by our ancestors, who paid some price for that freedom.

Each day, we have an extraordinary opportunity, an opportunity to be better than we were yesterday. We must all strive to improve ourselves to be the best we can be. That's how we can honor the memory of those who have given their lives to fight and defeat terrorism and ensure their sacrifices are not in vain.

Winston Churchill once said, "To every man, there comes in his lifetime that special moment when he is tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique and fitted to his talents."

Opportunity, combined with education, is a key to success; and the military is a great place to seek it, find it and achieve success from it.

*(Editor's note: October is Hispanic-Heritage Month)*



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by the public affairs office of this installation. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

The KRAB KRONICLE accepts stories, photographs and commentaries, which may be submitted to the PA staff at the group headquarters building or can be e-mailed to lee.smith@krab.aorcentaf.af.mil

Submission deadline is noon. Monday the week before publication. All submissions are edited for content and Air Force journalistic style.

For more information, visit the PA office in the 506th AEG HQ building or call 460-0132.

(Flag is courtesy of Michelle Butzgy, Pope AFB, N.C.)

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NCOIC, Public Affairs

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editor

## News briefs

### Circuit training classes

The Sand Krab Fitness Center is offering circuit training classes Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30 p.m. There will be beginner, intermediate and advanced classes available.

### Talent show

The Palm Oasis Recreation Center will host a talent show Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed for various positions to include audio systems and stage assistant, decorator, usher, set up and clean up. For more information, call 460-0277.

### IDP, FSA extension

A temporary budget extension will keep combat pay at its current rate. Imminent Danger Pay will remain \$225 per month and Family Separation Allowance will be \$250 per month for those who qualify. The extension is expected to expire Oct. 31. For more information, call 460-0650.

### Mailing instructions

When mailing packages at the post office other than letter size mail, all

packages must be opened before it can be sealed and accepted. However, the post office will not accept any sort of weapons or ammunition, to include spent and cleaned ammo casings. For more information, call 460-0219.

### Special seminars

Professional development seminars are being held now through the beginning of November. The following is a list of upcoming classes:

**Wednesday** – Enlisted evaluation system and effective counseling

**Oct. 22** – Time management

**Oct. 29** – Training and 623 documentation

**Nov. 5** – Enforcing standards

All classes will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. in the clam shell.

### Iraqi rodeo

The Cantina will host an Iraqi rodeo Oct. 17 at 8 p.m. Events will include camel busting, barrel racin', goat rustlin' and All-Around Cowboy (or Cowgirl.) For more information, email Tech. Sgt. Keith Vernon or stop by the Cantina.

### Assignment preferences

People can now update their assignment preferences, 'dream sheet,' online. People should go to the Intranet bulletin and open the "assignment preferences" page under the "Group Announcements" section. For more information, call PERSCO at 460-0626.

### Morale calls

There are morale phones available in the Cyber Café in Tent City. People are allowed one 15-minute morale call per week. People who need to talk more than 15 minutes or at times other than posted, must get permission from their first sergeant.

### Football pick'ems

The Cantina offers a chance for people to show their football expertise during the weekly football pick'ems contest.

Score sheets are available online, at the Cantina and fitness centers.

Last week's winners were Senior Airman Juan Colon and Staff Sgt. Terry Herring.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

### Fall retreat

Kirkuk members fold the U.S. flag as part of the monthly retreat ceremony Sept. 30. The retreat ceremony was held near the 506th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron control tower.



## AAFES

(from page 1)

"When our customers see the 'AAFES' logo, and they see the brand names we have in stock, they know they see the best possible product," Frost said. "And I think when the people of Kirkuk see this facility, it will be no different."

Col. James Callahan, 506th Air Expeditionary Group commander, said the current facility needed to be upgraded.

"The popularity of the base exchange has made the old facility insufficient," Callahan said. "Normally, we would be talking about a two or three year waiting period to see a completed project. Here, we're talking 20 plus days and a wake up and there will be a new BX here at Kirkuk."

According to Jonathan King, assistant manager for the Kirkuk BX, the new facility will enable them to carry more of what they already have.

"The current base/post exchange carries a good representation of the



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

**Chris Holifield, BX/PX store manager, has one of the groundbreaking shovels autographed by Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, AAFES commander.**

stock assortment authorized to tactical field exchanges," King said. "We will be able to have an even better selection of goods with already established categories (i.e. food, electronics,

etc.)"

King added that the current exchange will be used as an additional stockroom or storage space for the new facility.



Photo by Senior Airman Lee S. Smith

### Bug begone

**Staff Sgt. Charles Curnutte from the 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron's entomology shop, sprays for bugs outside of Tent City Tuesday. The shop sprayed the outside of each tent for sand flies which carry Leishmaniasis, a parasitic disease. They will spray the inside of the tents Monday from 7 to 9 a.m.**

# Base uses CERP funds to rebuild Iraqi cemeteries

By Senior Airman Lee S. Smith  
Editor

Two cemeteries that had been neglected for years are being restored using funds from the Commander's Emergency Response Program.

The major renovations will include the restoration of a wall built around the tombstones of locales buried near Tent City.

The area was kept intact when Saddam Hussein and his Ba'ath Party built up the base in 1987; however, no one was allowed to visit the site.

Chap. (Lt. Col.) Joseph Vu, 506th Air Expeditionary Group chaplain, said that since no one was allowed in the area for years, the weeds got higher and the tombs had deteriorated over time.

"Our first plan is to build a wall around the area to separate it from the base," he said. "We also want to

*"We're trying to do the best we can to respect the holy ground by restoring these cemeteries; then we will allow family members to come in and visit their own."*

– Chap. (Lt. Col.) Joseph Vu

paint the mosque, which contains many tombs inside, particularly that of Imam Sultan Saqi, a Shi'a holy man who died in 1800's."

Once this cemetery is restored, Vu said they will then restore another cemetery on the other side of the base.

"We're trying our best to respect the holy ground by restoring these cemeteries; then we will allow family members to come in to visit. This will strengthen our friendship with the local community."

Formerly known as the Brigade Commander's Discretionary Funds, the CERP is funded through seized Iraqi assets and gives Army brigade and division commanders the ability to reestablish and rebuild the social and material infrastructure in Iraq.

Initial projects include the equipping of Iraqi police stations and hospitals, the purchase of computers and equipment for several area schools and the renovation of a local government radio and television station.

## Congratulations to Kirkuk promotees, monthly award winners

The following Kirkuk members were promoted for the month of October:

*To airman 1st class*

**Kalob Hinnars** and **Warren Garth**, 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron; **Carrie Degrella**, 506th Expeditionary Communications Squadron; **Sandra Brothers**, **Anthony Reyes** and **Spencer Bernhard**, 506th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

*To senior airman*

**Kevin Mayhair**, 506th Air Expeditionary Group support staff, **Shannon Smith**, 506th ECS, **Tavarus Williams** and **LaSandra Crockett**, 506th Expeditionary Services Squadron; **Chris Garlinghouse** and **Fredric Gonzalez**, 506th ECES; **Johana Billy**, **Thai Le** and **Ceaser Gonzalez**, 506th Expeditionary Medical Squadron, **Jay Hoopman**, 506th ESFS, **Shelly Albers**, 506th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

*To staff sergeant*

**Vincent Daniels**, 506th ESVS

*To technical sergeant*

**Scott Prows**, 506th ECS

*To master sergeant*

**Vincent Tanner**, 506th ECS

Congratulations to each of the monthly award winners for the month of September:

Airman of the Month: **Airman 1st Class James Hickman**, 506th ECES

Noncommissioned Officer of the Month: **Staff Sgt. Lataska Brown**, 506th ELRS

Company Grade Officer of the Month: **Capt. David Phillips**, 506th ECES

Senior NCO of the Month: **Master Sgt. Gerald Schenck**, 506th ECES

Group of the Month: **506th ESFS**

The next promotion ceremony will be held at the end of the month.





**Maj. Mark Ernewein, 303rd Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, shows comedian Butch Bradley the controls of an A-10 Oct. 2.**



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Charlein Sheets

**Comedian Ralphie May was the last to take the stage Oct. 2.**

## Comedians bring laughter from home

**By Senior Airman  
Lee S. Smith  
Editor**

A group of comedians from the U.S. visited Kirkuk Thursday to entertain the troops and film segments for an upcoming DVD.

The comedians were part of the Laugh Factory team, which belongs to the USO tour traveling through Southwest Asia.

Ralphie May, the headliner for the show, teamed with three other comedians to entertain more than 300 troops here. May, who has been featured on "Last Comic Standing" will also release a DVD next year and wanted to include his trip here as a part of it.

"I asked to have many shots of the crowd because that's what I wanted to show: people's faces," May said. "We'll also include the autograph session we did after the show."

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*"...we just wanted to bring a smile to people's faces for a couple of hours."*

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**— Butch Bradley**

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Lahna Turner, another of the comedians who performed, said it was an honor to come out here and entertain the troops.

"We all really appreciate what you are doing here," Turner said. "I know the people back home feel the same way."

Bob Marley, a comedian from New England, said he was pleasantly surprised with Kirkuk.

"In my mind, I was thinking the worst, but it actually isn't as bad as I thought it would be," he said. "It is amazing what can be done with a patch of dirt!"

Marley, who has been doing comedy for 12 years,

said this was one of his many unique performance places.

"I've done comedy at beer festivals, as well as people's driveways," he said. "This was different."

Butch Bradley, who has appeared on HBO, said the crowd was the best part about this performance.

"Everyone was so responsive to all of us," Bradley said. "We all know that the Air Force and Army have been here for a long time, and we just wanted to bring a smile to people's faces for a couple of hours."

Each of the performers expressed no concern for their safety.

"I didn't hesitate when I was asked to do this," May said. "I see what's on the news but when I got in and saw all of the planes you have here, I knew nothing was going to happen to me."

The tour was organized by Jane Bouman, a producer in Los Angeles.

"We wanted to do something in the spirit of Bob Hope for the troops here," she said. "He was a pioneer for entertaining troops overseas and each of these young comedians wanted to perform here in Iraq. They were all gung ho from the beginning about coming here and having the opportunity to perform. The military troops are near and dear to our hearts and we really appreciate what you are doing here."

The comedians will next perform at Tikrit before heading back to the states.

**Scores and more****NFL standings***(as of Thursday)***AFC****East**

MIA 3-1, BUF 3-2, N.E. 3-2, NYJ 0-4

**North**

BAL 2-2, CLE 2-3, PIT 2-3, CIN 1-4

**South**

IND 5-0, TEN 3-2, HOU 2-2, JAX 1-4

**West**

KC 5-0, DEN 4-1, OAK 2-3, SD 0-5

**NFC****EAST**

DAL 3-1, WAS 3-2, PHI 2-2, NYG 2-2

**North**

MIN 5-0, GB 3-2, CHI 1-3, DET 1-4

**South**

CAR 4-0, TB 2-2, ATL 1-4, NO 1-4

**West**

SEA 3-1, STL 2-2, SF 2-3, ARI 1-4

**College Football AP Top 10**

1. Oklahoma
2. Miami
3. Ohio St.
4. Va. Tech
5. FSU
6. LSU
7. Arkansas
8. Georgia
9. USC
10. Nebraska

**In other headlines...**

**Golf ...** Annika Sorenstam will meet the minimum requirements to become a Hall of Famer after the first round of the Samsung World Championships.

**NBA...** Lakers coach Phil Jackson has said he has considered asking Michael Jordan to come out of retirement if Kobe Bryant is unable to play this season.

**Chapel Schedule****Friday**

5 a.m., 7 p.m. -- Islamic prayer

**Saturday**

7 p.m. -- Catholic Mass

**Sunday**

8 a.m. -- Gospel Service

9 a.m. -- Catholic Mass (Sky Soldier chapel)

10 a.m. -- General Protestant

11:30 a.m. -- Catholic Mass

1 p.m. -- Latter-Day Saints

2 p.m. -- Catholic Mass (Sky Soldiers Chapel)

7 p.m. -- Protestant Service

**Tuesday**

6:30 p.m. Growing as a Christian: Studying the Book of James

**Wednesday**

8 a.m. -- The Bible in Light of Current History and Local Events

5:30 p.m. -- Building Your Faith: Studying the Book of Hebrews

**Friday**

9 a.m. Catholic Mass (Sky Soldier chapel)

*All services are held at the Ten Days From Tomorrow Chapel unless otherwise noted. Times subject to change. Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist and others should contact chapel administration for updates of their religious requirements and support.*

**KRAB Intramural standings, schedules****FOOTBALL Standings as of Wednesday****AFC**

Team	W	L	Pct.
Yard Dogs	3	0	1.000
1/508th ABN	3	0	1.000
Blacksheep B.	2	0	.000
Able Warlords	2	1	.667
173rd HHC	1	1	.500
Warriors	1	1	.500
506th ECES #1	1	1	.500
173rd CSC	1	2	.333
506th ECS	0	1	.000
506th ESFS	0	2	.000
Chosen Few	0	2	.000
223rd ENG BN	0	3	.000

**NFC**

Staffers	3	0	1.000
Hell's Butchers	2	0	1.000
Huron #2	2	0	1.000
506th ECES #2	2	0	1.000
B Co. 2/2 INF	1	1	.500
D Batt, 315 AFAR	0	1	.000
No Mercy	0	2	.000
2/15 Far, 10th MTN	0	2	.000
506th ECES #2	0	2	.000
Outlawz	0	2	.000
728th EACS	0	3	.000

**Upcoming football schedule****Today**

3:30 p.m. Yard Dogs vs. 506th ECES  
 4:30 p.m. Blacksheep Boys vs. 506th ECES #1  
 5:30 p.m. 506th ESFS vs. Able Warlords

**Monday**

3:30 p.m. B/Co. 2/2 INF  
 4:30 p.m. Staffers vs. 506th ECES #2  
 5:30 p.m. Hell's Butchers vs. No Mercy

**Tuesday**

3:30 p.m. 506th ECES #1 vs. Able Warlords  
 4:30 p.m. B Co 2/2 Inf 506th ECES #2  
 5:30 p.m. Hell's Butchers vs. Staffers

**Wednesday**

3:30 p.m. 173rd HHC vs. 223rd ENG BN  
 4:30 p.m. Warriors vs. 173rd CSC  
 5:30 p.m. 1/508th ABN vs. 506th ECS

**Thursday**

3:30 p.m. B Co. 2/2 Inf vs. Staffers  
 4:30 p.m. 506th ECES #2 vs. 728th EACS  
 5:30 p.m. 506th ESFS vs. 506th ECES

**Explosive ordnance disposal item of the week**

**Type 72 Anti-personnel Landmines** - These are high explosive, anti-personnel landmines. These are mines that have been made to disable or kill troops. They are extremely sensitive; personnel discovering these items should never disturb or touch them. If anyone does encounter one, mark off the area and immediately contact the base's Explosive Ordnance Disposal team with the location at 460-0903.



Courtesy photo

## Commonly used phone numbers

ATOC .....	460-0038
BDOC .....	460-0960
Cantina .....	460-0811
CC Supt. Section ...	460-0099
CE Cust. Serv.....	460-0058
Chaplain .....	460-0129
Command Chief ....	460-0052
Command Post. ....	460-0077
COMM Help Desk ...	460-0000
Contracting .....	460-0860
Dining Facility .....	460-0605
EMEDS .....	460-0802
EOD .....	460-0903
Fire Department ....	460-0030
Finance .....	460-0620
First Sergeant .....	460-0016
Fitness Center .....	460-0271
Latvians .....	460-0065
Legal .....	460-0117
Lodging .....	460-0806
Logistics Plans .....	460-0194
OSI .....	460-0326
PERSCO .....	460-0625/0627
Public Affairs .....	460-0131
Protocol .....	460-0260
Safety .....	460-0090
Supply .....	460-0039

For a complete listing of agencies' telephone numbers, log onto <http://www.krab.aorcentaf.af.mil/Phonebooks.html>.

## What's Your Sign?

**Leo** (July 23 - Aug. 22) Don't put any emphasis on what happens to you in your dreams. Unless you dream that you hit the lottery. If that does happen, try to give a horoscope writer you know a nice donation.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Be cautious in unfamiliar territory. So whatever you do, do not look under the bed. Who knows what is hiding under that thing.

**Libra** (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22) Look at yourself from a different point of view to find your lost youth. (This is a good time to mention the Cantina has PS2's... you know... games ... child ... never mind!)

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) Take a chance and you will be rewarded. So grab an MRE. Inside one of them is a platinum spoon. If you find it, you'll win the grand prize... a lifetime supply of Chicken Cavatelli!

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Given the choice between rhyme and reason, choose reason. You and your brain don't get along well enough to choose rhyme.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) You will run into an old flame. You should know at first

if things can work out with you two. If it does, great. If it doesn't, be the adult and stick your tongue out at the loser.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 21 - Feb. 18) Financial tip of the week: don't invest with Nicky No-Neck, the guy with one eye. Long story.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19 - March 20) Follow the path put forth before you; so go to the barber shop and get a haircut, ya' hippie!

**Aries** (Feb. 19 - March 20) Your wisdom is insightful and instructional in nature, but winning a paper football game doesn't qualify you as the next Lombardi.

**Taurus** (April 20 - May 20) Paper beats rock, but scissors cuts paper. Take paper with the points on the road over the favored rock.

**Gemini** (May 21 - June 20) Imagination is a wonderful tool you can use to "get away." Just remember not to use that tool while driving.

**Cancer** (June 21 - July 22) Love conquers all and the heart sees no bad ... okay, we saw the comedian and he was funny, but ...how in the name of humanity could a girl be with someone that big?

## Translations

**It rained here last week.** *Al issboja al mutterat huna.*

**It's getting colder here.** *Asbahat bardan huna.*

**Do you have a jacket?** *Hal aendak al-miataph*

**Halloween is coming up.** *Halloween eaq-*

*tarabat*

**October is usually a busy month.**

*Teshreen al-awal Aadatan shaher al mash-gala*

**The World Series is this month.**

*Khadamat al-alam fi al-teshreen al-awal.*